

A short introduction to comparative clauses (of equality)

Antonio Revuelta (Madrid)

antonio.revuelta@uam.es

1. Contents

- **Scope of the research (§ 2)**
- **Comparison clauses and semantic functions (§ 3)**
- **Syntactic contexts: comparison and layers of the clause (§ 4)**
- **Description of the comparative clauses (§ 5-8)**
- **Diachronic developments (§ 9)**
- **Synoptic view (§ 10)**

2. Scope of the research

Clauses and other constituents expressing equality comparison:

- English: *as*, *like*, ...
- German: *wie*, *als* ...
- Spanish: *como*, ...
- Modern Greek: *όπως* (και), *σαν*, *καθώς* (και), *τόσο* ... *όσο* ...
- Ancient Greek: *ώς*, *ὥσπερ*, *ὥστε*...
- Latin: *ut*, ...

3. Comparison and other semantic functions

Function	Constituents			
	Subordinate	NP	Adverb	PP
Time	Temporal clauses <i>before you came</i>	the day before	then	in the morning
Cause	Cause clauses <i>because you came</i>			<i>due to that, for that reason</i>
Condition	Conditional clauses <i>if/in case you come...</i>		<i>else, then, otherwise</i>	<i>in that case</i>
Concession	Concessive clauses <i>although you came ...</i>		<i>even then</i>	<i>despite ...</i>
Purpose	Purpose clauses <i>for ... to ..., in order to come</i>			<i>for</i>
...
? Manner	Comparative clauses <i>as, like¹</i>	?	?	<i>like?</i>

1) Absent from grammars like Rijksbaron 2006 (Ancient Greek)

Problems:

- a) **Semantic function.** In grammars ‘comparison’ is not established as a semantic function in contrast to other functions.
- b) **Alternative expressions.** Although there are some voids, it is possible to enumerate other kinds of constituents displaying the same function as subordinate clauses of Time, Cause, Concession, Purpose, and so on. That is no that easy in the case of comparison clauses.
- c) **Manner.** If we equate comparison of equality with Manner (‘in the X way’), this function does not cover but a minimal part of the range of semantic meanings conveyed by comparative clauses of equality.

Solutions:

- a) Description of the values conveyed by comparative clauses.
- b) Syntactic and semantic scope of action.

4. Syntactic contexts

(a) Comparatives as a constituent of the clause > § 4.1.

(b) Comparatives as modifiers of other constituents > § 4.2.

4.1. Layers of the clause

(Dik 1997, Dik *et alii* 1990, Hengeveld 1990)

To be honest, probably today I won't properly explain my paper

σ_4

σ_3

σ_2

Arg

σ_1

Arg

SoA

Proposition

Speech act



- **Argument/Satellites1 (Adjuncts) of the SoA:**

State of Affairs (SoA)

- a) Something that can happen and be perceived (2nd order entity)
- b) It is described by the verb and the **arguments** and some σ_1 **satellites** (first level adjuncts)

(1) I won't **properly** explain my paper

To be honest, probably today

σ_4

σ_3

σ_2

I	won't	properly	explain	my paper
Arg		σ_1		Arg

SoA

Proposition

Speech act

- **Satellites2/Adjuncts:**

a) That SoA can be placed within a temporal and circumstantial frame by σ_2 **satellites** (\approx second level adjuncts).

(2) **Today** I won't properly explain my paper

To be honest, probably

σ_4

σ_3

today

σ_2

I

won't

properly

σ_1

explain my paper

Arg

Arg

SoA

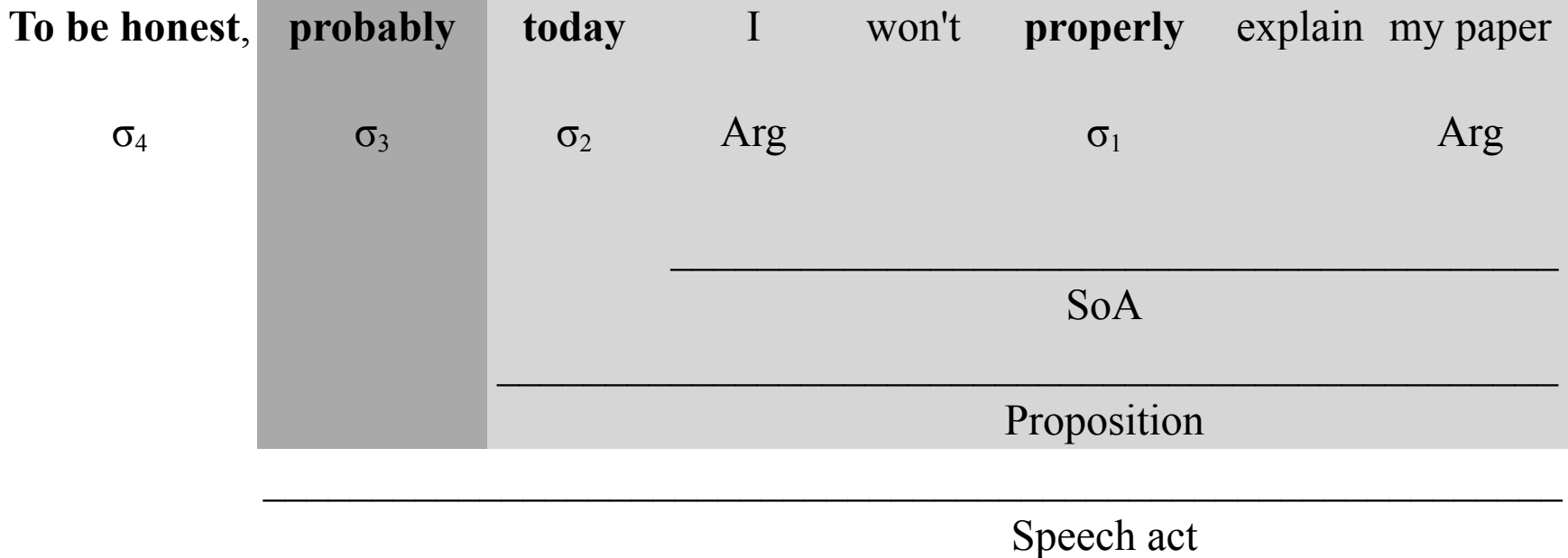
Proposition

Speech act

- **Proposition**

- Something that can be true, false or uncertain (3rd order entity)
- Expressed internally by verb + arguments + σ_1 **satellites** + σ_2 **satellites**
- Modified externally by σ_3 **satellites**.

(3) **Probably** today I won't properly explain my paper



- **Speech act**

- a) The fact that the speaker utters his/her sentence (4th order entity)
- b) Expressed internally by verb + arguments + **$\sigma 1$ satellites** + **$\sigma 2$ satellites** + **$\sigma 3$ satellites**;
- c) Modified externally by **$\sigma 4$ satellites**.

(4) **To be honest**, probably today I won't properly explain my paper

To be honest,	probably	today	I	won't	properly	explain	my paper
σ_4	σ_3	σ_2	Arg		σ_1		Arg
			SoA				
		Proposition					
	Speech act						

4.2. Modifier of a NP, Adjective or Adverb.

a1) NP: noun phrase

- (5) a. [A man]_{NP}
b. [A man **like you**]_{NP}

a2) Adj: adjective

- (6) a. The man is [tall]_{Adj}
b. The man is [**as tall as you**]_{Adj}

a3) Adv: adverb

- (7) a. The man drives [slowly]_{Adv}
b. The man drives [**as slowly as you**]_{Adv}

5. Level: clause constituent

5.1. Manner.

5.2. Quality.

5.3. Intensity/degree.

5.4. Progression.

5.5. Additive focus.

5.6. Proposition/speech act attitude.

5.7. Minimal pairs.

5.1. Manner

- (8) a. He speaks **as you (do/speak)**¹ (sub. clause)
b. He speaks **well** (adverb)
c. He speaks **in a very formal way** (PP)

Engl.	He speaks as/like you (speak) (sub. clause)
Ger.	Er spricht wie Du (sprichst) (sub. clause)
Sp.	(Él) habla como tú (hablas) (sub. clause)
Mod. Gr.	(Αυτός) μιλάει όπως εσύ (μιλάς) (sub. clause)
Anc. Gr.	(Αὐτὸς) λαλεῖ ὥσπερ σύ (λαλεῖς) (sub. clause)
Lat.	(ille) loquitur ut tu (loqueris) (sub. clause)

Elipsis:

- 1) Elipsis is frequent in **comparative** clauses and **coordinations**.
- 2) Elipsis is more **natural** or **idiomatic** in many cases.

5.1.1. Manner + condition

Engl.	He speaks as if he was right (sub. clause)
Ger.	Er spricht als <u>hätte er</u> recht (sub. clause)
Sp.	(Él) habla como si tuviera razón (sub. clause)
Mod. Gr.	(Αυτός) μιλάει σαν να έχει δίκιο (sub. clause)
Anc. Gr.	(Αὐτός) λαλεῖ ὥσπερ (ἂν) εἰ ὀρθῶς ἔλεγε (sub. clause)
Lat.	(ille) loquitur quasi recte legat (sub. clause)

(i) Elipsis

- (9) a. He speaks **as if** he was right (sub. clause)
- b. ≈ He speaks (under the X conditions) **as** (he would speak) **if** he was right
- c. ≈ He speaks **in the same way as** (he would speak) **if** he was right

Like in coordinations the **common material** is omitted.

(ii) Subordinators:

- (10) a. Comparative + conditional: **Engl.** *as if*, **Sp.** *como si*, **AG.** ὥσπερ (ἂν) εἰ,
Lat. *quasi* (*qua* + *si*)
- b. Special constructions: **Germ.** *als* + inversion, **MG.** *σαν να, λες και*.

(iii) Parallel cases with other subordinates

- (11) a. I found him very quiet, **as** (I found him) **when** he suffered his first depression
- b. Lo encontré muy tranquilo, **como** (lo encontré) **cuando** sufrió su primera depresión.
- (12) a. I found him very quiet in Naxos, **as** (I found him quiet) **in Madrid**
- b. Lo encontré muy tranquilo en Naxos, **como** (lo encontré muy tranquilo) **en Madrid**.

5.2. Quality

Engl.	He speaks as a lawyer
Ger.	Er spricht als Rechtsanwalt
Sp.	(Él) habla como abogado
Mod. Gr.	(Αυτός) μιλάει ως/(σαν) δικηγόρος
Anc. Gr.	(Αὐτὸς) λαλεῖ ὥς/ᾗτε συνηγόρος
Lat.	(ille) loquitur ut iurisconsultus

(i) Quality (without verb):

- Dik (1997: 231): «Quality satellites designate the role / function / authority by virtue of which an Action is carried out, or a Position maintained; they require [+con] SoAs»

(13) a. He speaks as a lawyer¹

b. ≈ He is a lawyer and he speaks in that quality/role.

Note1: The nominal phrase refers to a **property** and not to an **entity**.

(ii) Quality vs. Manner (with article, at least in singular)

- (14) a. He speaks like a lawyer
b. He is **not** a lawyer (probably)
c. \approx He speaks **as a lawyer would speak**.
d. \approx He speaks **in the same way as a lawyer (would speak)**.

Note1: *like* (Manner) vs. *as* (Quality/Manner): Thomson & Martinet (1980³).

(iii) No verbal elipsis: it is not a subordinate clause (Quality)

- (15) a. He speaks **as a lawyer (*speaks)** > Quality
b. He speaks **as/like a lawyer (speaks)** > Manner

Note2: from a comparative point of view:

comparative expressions > quality expressions

(iv) Means of expression: factors

Lang.	Examples	Funct	Head	Art
English	He speaks as a lawyer	Quality	as	+
	He speaks like a lawyer	Manner	like	+
German	Er spricht als Rechtsanwalt	Quality	als	∅
	Er spricht wie ein Rechtsanwalt (spricht)	Manner	wie	+
Spanish	(Él) habla como abogado	Quality	como	∅
	(Él) habla como un abogado	Manner	como	+
	(Él) trabaja de/como abogado / *habla de abogado	Quality	de	∅
	*(Él) trabaja de un abogado	Manner	de	+
AGreek	(Αὐτὸς) λαλεῖ ὥς συνηγόρος	Quality	ὥς	∅
	(Αὐτὸς) λαλεῖ ὥς συνήγορός (τις) (λαλεῖ)	Manner	ὥς	(+)
	(Αὐτὸς) λαλεῖ ἄτε συνηγόρος	Quality	ἄτε	∅
	(Αὐτὸς) λαλεῖ ὥσπερ συνήγορός (τις) (λαλεῖ)	Manner	ὥσπερ	(+)
MGreek	(Αυτός _i) μιλάει ως/(σαν) δικηγόρος _i	Quality	ως/(σαν)	∅
	(Αυτός _i) μιλάει σαν δικηγόρος _i	Manner	σαν	∅
	(Αυτός _i) μιλάει όπως ένας δικηγόρος _i	Manner	σαν	+

a) Difference only in the header: Eng. *as* + *a/like* + *a*

b) Difference: header and article: Germ. *als* *ø/wie* + *ein*.

c) Difference: article (NP = entity or property):

Sp. *como* *ø* / *como* + *un*, AGr *ὡς* *ø* / *ὡς* (*τις*)

• **Modern Greek:**

a) AGr *ὡς* (Manner/Quality) > MGr. *ως* ('as', Quality).

b) AGr *ὡς ἄν* > *ὡσάν* > MGr. *σαν*:

b1) + Nom. 'like' (Manner)

b2) + Nom./Acc. 'as' (Quality): discouraged by prescriptive grammars, but everybody uses it (even those discouraging its use)

5.3. Intensity/Degree

Engl.	He speaks as much as you (speak) (sub. clause)
Ger.	Er spricht so viel wie Du (sprichst) (sub. clause)
Sp.	(Él) habla tanto como tú (hablas) (sub. clause)
Mod. Gr.	(Αυτός) μιλάει τόσο όσο (εσύ) (sub. clause)
Anc. Gr.	(Αὐτὸς) λαλεῖ ποσοῦτον ὅσον/οὔτως ὥς σύ (λαλεῖς) (sub. clause)
Lat.	(ille) loquitur tantum quantum tu (loqueris) (sub. clause)

(i) Orientation

(16) a. He eats **as much as** you do

b. He eats **as much food as** you do (object-oriented)

(17) a. He sleeps **as much as** you do

b. He sleeps **as much time as** you do (duration-oriented)

(18) a. He goes to the cinema **as much as** you do

b. He goes to the cinema **as frequently as** you do (frequency-oriented)

(i) **Analysis 1:** Eng. *as much as you*, Germ. *so viel wie Du*

(a) Adverb (**much**) modified by a comparative clause (**as ... as ...**)
> **diachronic analysis**

(19) He speaks [as [**much**] as you (speak)]

(b) Complex subordinator (**as much as**) > **synchronic analysis ?**

(20) He speaks [as much as] you (speak)

(iii) **Analysis2**: Sp. tanto como ..., MGr. τόσο όσο ..., AGr. τοσοῦτον ὅσον ..., Lat. tantum quantum

Relative constructions: adv. + rel. adv.

(21) a. ¡(Él) habla **tanto**! > Exclamation

b. 'He speaks **so much**!'

(22) a. (Él) habla **tanto como** tú (hablas) > Intensity/Degree

b. 'He speaks **as much as** you'

(23) a. (Él) habla **como** tú (hablas) > Manner

b. 'He speaks **as** you' (well, formally, informally)

5.4. Progression

Engl.	The more he speaks the less I understand	Comp
Ger.	Je mehr er spricht desto weniger verstehe ich	Comp
Sp.	Cuanto más habla (él) menos entiendo yo	Comp
MGr.	Όσο περισσότερο μιλάει (αυτός) τόσο λιγότερο καταλαβαίνω (εγώ)	Comp
Lat.	(ille) quam multissimum loquitur ego tam minimum intellego	Superl
AGr.	(Αὐτὸς) λαλεῖ τοσοῦτω πλεῖον/πλεῖστον ὅσω ἐλάσσον/ἐλάχιστον συνίημι	Comp/ Super

(i) **Subordinate character:** rather than a main and subordinate clause, there seems to exist a complex construction (coordination).

(ii) **Causal connection:** inversion of the terms changes the sense:

(24) a. **The more** he speaks (cause) **the less** I understand (effect)

a. **The less** I understand (cause) **the more** he speaks (effect)

5.5. Additive focus

Engl.	Like <u>the rapporteur</u> , I deplore the fact that the figures given in the report do not cover all state aid.
Ger.	Ebenso wie <u>der Berichterstatter</u> bedaure auch ich, daß die in dem Berichtenthaltenen Zahlen nicht alle staatlichen Beihilfen abdecken.
Sp.	Deploro, al igual que <u>el ponente</u> , que las cifras presentadas en el informe no cubran todas las ayudas estatales.

(i) Additive Focus vs. Manner (Revuelta: 2020)

(25) **Like the rapporteur**, I deplore the fact that [...]

a. ≠ I deplore the fact that ... **in the same way** as the **rapporteur**

> We both do something **in the same way** (**Manner**)

b. ≈ I deplore the fact that ... and the **rapporteur** deplores it too

> We both **do the same**: we deplore the fact that [...] (**Additive focus**)

(ii) Additive Focus vs. Coordination: presupposition and assertion

(26) **I and the rapporteur** deplore the fact that the figures given in the report do not cover all state aid.

a. **I** deplore the fact that the figures ... (**assertion**)

b. **The rapporteur** deplores the fact that the figures ... (**assertion**)

(27) **Like the rapporteur**, I deplore the fact that the figures given in the report do not cover all state aid.

a. **I** deplore the fact that the figures ... (**assertion**)

b. **The rapporteur** deplores the fact that the figures ... (**presupposition**)

(iii) Similitude with so-called Focusing particles

König (1991)

(28) **Like the rapporteur, I** deplore the fact that the figures given in the report do not cover all state aid.

a. **I** deplore the fact that the figures ... (**assertion**)

b. **The rapporteur** deplores the fact that the figures ... (**presupposition**)

(29) **I** deplore **too** the fact that the figures given in the report do not cover all state aid.

a. **I** deplore the fact that the figures ... (**assertion**)

b. **Someone (≠ I)** deplores the fact that the figures ... (**presupposition**)

Note1: Both constructions introduce a presupposition for alternative (sets of) entities: the subordinate identifies that entity, while the adverb keeps it unidentified.

(iv) **Harmonic constructions:** comparative + additive focus adverb

as ... too ..., wie ... auch ...

(30) Ebenso **wie** der Berichtstatter bedaure **auch** ich, daß die in dem Berichtenthaltenen Zahlen nicht alle staatlichen Beihilfen abdecken. (sub. clause?)

a. Ich bedaure, daß ... (**assertion**)

b. Der Berichtstatter bedauert, daß ... (**presupposition**)

(31) Η κ. Παπανδρέου, **όπως και ο πρωθυπουργός**, μίλησε για τα πολλά δισεκατομμύρια που έχει πληρώσει ο ελληνικός λαός στις ΔΕΚΟ. («Mrs. Papandreou, **like** the prime minister, spoke about the many billions that the Greek people have paid to DEKO.», ILSP 1263124)

(32) **ὥσπερ** δὲ ἡ γῆ, **οὕτω καὶ ἡ περὶ τὴν χώραν θάλαττα** παμφορωτάτη ἐστίν («As productive as the land is too the sea around the coasts.», X. Vect. 1.3).

(v) Development: from comparative (focus) into coordination

- (33) a. Εμείς έχουμε την υποχρέωση να συμμετέχουμε στην εκπόνηση των κατευθυντήριων γραμμών, **καθώς και** στην αξιολόγηση των αποτελεσμάτων.
- b. We are obliged to participate in drafting directives **and also** in assessing their results.
- c. Nosotros tenemos la obligación de participar en la elaboración de las directrices **y también** en la evaluación de los resultados.

Language	Comparative conjunction	Coordinative conjunction
English	as	A ... as well as ... B
German	wie	A ... sowohl ... wie auch ... B
Spanish	como	A ... tanto ... como ... B A ... así como ... B
MGreek	όσο	A ... τόσο ... όσο ... B A ... καθώς και ... B A ... όπως και ... B

5.6. Proposition/Speech act attitude

Quirk et alii (1985: 1112-1118): ‘comment clauses’

English	As Peter says , you should never believe lawyers
German	Wie Peter sagt , <u>Du solltest/solltest Du</u> keinen Rechtsanwälten glauben (sub. clause? > no inversion)
Spanish	Como Pedro dice , no debes creer a los abogados
MGreek	Όπως λέει ο Πέτρος , δε θα έπρεπε να πιστέψεις τους δικηγόρους
AGreek	ὥς/ὥσπερ λέγει ὁ Πέτρος , συνηγόροις σε οὐ δεῖ πιστεύειν
Latin	ut Petrus dicit , non decet iurisconsultis credere

Paraphrase: the subordinate says that the content conveyed by the main clause belongs to the things Peter says.

(i) Differences with Manner

(34) **As Peter says**, you should never believe lawyers

- a. \approx **According to Peter/In Peter's opinion** you should never believe lawyers (**Propositional Attitude**)
- b. \neq You should never believe lawyers **in the way Peter says (you should believe them)** (**Manner**)

(ii) Scope

It is not a constituent of the main clause (predication), but takes the sentence (proposition) as a predicate (it is its logical object/subject)

(35) **As Peter says**, you should never believe lawyers

- c. **Peter says** that you should never believe lawyers

5.7. Clause level: minimal pairs

(36) a. Peter spoke **as we expected** (**Manner**).

(= Peter spoke and he did so **in the way we expected** him to speak).

b. **As we expected**, Peter spoke (**Propositional Attitude**).

(= **We expected that** Peter would speak and he did so).

(37) a. Peter worked **as/like the doorman** (**Manner/Degree**).

(= Peter worked **in the same way/with the same intensity** as the doorman).

b. Peter worked **as a doorman** (**Quality**).

(= Peter was a doorman and he worked **in that quality/role**).

(38) a. Peter spoke yesterday **like John** (Manner).

(= Peter spoke yesterday and he did so **in the same way as John**).

b. Peter — **like John** — spoke yesterday (Additive Focus).

(= Peter spoke yesterday **and** John did so **too**).

(39) a. Peter spoke yesterday **as I told you before** (Manner).

(= Peter spoke yesterday and he did so **in the way I told you** before he did).

b. **As I told you before**, Peter spoke yesterday (Speech attitude).

(= **I have told you** this before **that** Peter spoke yesterday).

6. Level: NP modifiers

Comparative clauses can modified the internal structure of NP

Engl.	A man like you (are) (sub. clause)
Ger.	Ein Mann wie Du (bist) (sub. clause)
Sp.	Un hombre como tú (eres) (sub. clause)

(i) Features:

- a) The NP may refer to an entity or to a set of entities (generic meaning).
- b) The entity or the set exhibits the same qualities as the entity headed by the comparative clauses:

(40) a. A man like you

b. \approx Any man/all men/a specific man **who is/are like you**

(ii) Equivalence to other NP modifiers

- (41) a. [A man **like you** (are)] shouldn't behave that way (**comp. clause**)
b. [An **educated** man] shouldn't behave that way (**adj.**)
c. [A man **who is educated**] shouldn't behave that way (**rel. clause**)
d. [A man **of your education**] shouldn't behave that way (**PP**)

(iii) Exceptions:

Quality relative clauses:

Latin	vir (talis) qualis tu (es) (sub. relative clause)
Ancient Greek	ἀνὴρ (τοιοῦτος) οἷος σύ (εἶ) (sub. relative clause)

(iv) Other syntactic positions

Engl.	He is intelligent	(adj. attributive)
	He is like you (are)	(sub. clause)
Ger.	Er is klug	(adj. attributive)
	Er is wie Du (bist)	(sub. clause)
Sp.	(Él) es listo	(adj. attributive)
	(Él) es como tú (eres)	(sub. clause)

Conclusion: comparative clauses can be used to adscribe **properties** to Nouns or NP: they operate as restrictors or modifiers.

7. Level: Adjectival modifiers

Engl.	He is as <u>tall</u> as you (are)
Ger.	Er ist so <u>groß</u> wie Du (bist)
Sp.	(Él) es tan <u>alto</u> como tú (eres)
Mod. Gr.	(Αυτός) είναι τόσο <u>ψηλός</u> όσο εσύ (είσαι)
Anc. Gr.	(Αὐτός) ἔστι οὕτως <u>μέγας</u> ὥς σύ (εἶ)
Lat.	(ille) est ita <u>longus</u> ut tu (es)

(42) a. He is tall (positive degree)

b. He is [**as tall as you (are)**] (**comparison, equality**)

c. He is [**taller than you (are)**] (comparison, superiority)

d. He is [**less tall than you (are)**] (comparison, inferiority)

e. He is [**very tall**] (superlative absolute)

e. He is [**the tallest**] (superlative relative)

8. Level: Adverbial modifiers

Engl.	He speaks as <u>fast</u> as you (speak)
Ger.	Er spricht so <u>schnell</u> wie Du (sprichst)
Sp.	(Él) habla tan <u>deprisa</u> como tú (hablas)
Mod. Gr.	(Αυτός) μιλάει τόσο <u>γρήγορα</u> όσο εσύ (μιλάς)
Anc. Gr.	(Αὐτός) λαλεῖ οὕτως <u>ταχέως</u> ὥς σύ (λαλεῖς)
Lat.	(ille) loquitur ita <u>celeriter</u> ut tu (loqueris)

(43) a. He speaks fast (positive grade)

b. He speaks [**as fast as you (speak)**] (**comparison, equality**)

c. He speaks [**faster than you (speak)**] (comparison, superiority)

d. He speaks [**less fast than you (speak)**] (comparison, inferiority)

e. He speaks [**very fast**] (superlative)

9. Diachronic developments

A) Comparatives (focus) > (heavy) coordination

Language	Comparative conjunction	Coordinative conjunction
English	as	A ... as well as ... B
German	wie	sowohl A ... wie auch ... B
Spanish	como	tanto A ... como ... B A ... así como ... B
MGreek	όσο	τόσο A ... όσο ... B A ... καθώς και B A ... όπως και B

(i) Common features: elipsis

(ii) Differences:

- Coordination: only assertion
- Comparative clauses: assertion + presupposition

B) Comparatives > Additive focusing expressions

(i) Spanish

(44) Pedro habla **tan bien como** su padre ('Pedro speaks **as well as** his father')

- a. **Pedro** speaks (**assertion**)
- b. **His father** speaks (**presupposition**)
- c. Both speak in the same way (**Manner**)

(45) Pedro habla **también** ('Pedro speaks too')

- a. **Pedro** speaks (**assertion**)
- b. **Somebody** (\neq **Pedro**) speaks (**presupposition**)

(ii) English

(46) I have to feed the animals **as well as** look after the children. (Swan § 91.4)

\pm **Coordination**

(47) **As well as** learning to swim he has been taking Spanish lessons this summer (Quirk *et alii* 1985: 708) \pm **Additive PP** \approx 'in addition to'

(48) We bought <some beer> **as well** (Quirk *et alii* 1985: 604) **Additive adverb**

10. Synoptic view

Level		Function	Engl	German	Lat.	Span.	AGreek	MGreek
Clause	Arg/σ1	Manner	like a lawyer	wie ein	ut	como	ὥσπερ/ὥς	σαν+Ac.
		Manner+Cond.	as if...	als+inver	quasi	como si	ὥσπερ εἰ	σαν να
		Intensity/Degree	as much as	so viel wie	tantum quantum	tanto como	τοσοῦτον ὅσον	τόσο ὅσο
		Quality	as a lawyer	als ...	ut	como	ὥς/ἄτε	ως/σαν
	σ2/σ3	Additive focus	like ... (too)	wie ... (auch)	ut... (etiam)	como ... (también)	ὥσπερ (καί)	καθώς και
	σ3	Proposition	as	wie	ut	como	ὥσπερ/ὥς	ὅπως
	σ3/σ4	Speech attitude	as	wie	ut	como	ὥσπερ/ὥς	ὅπως
?	?	Progression	the more ... the more ...	je ... desto ...	quam superl. ... tam superl. ...	cuanto ... tanto ...	τοσοῦτῳ... τοιούτῳ ...	τόσο ... ὅσο ...
Coord		Copulative	...as well as...	sowohl... wie auch...	sic ... ut ...	tanto... como...	(καί) ... ὥσπερ (καί)...	καθώς και
Focus		Additive				también		
NP		Modifier	like	wie	(talis) ... qualis ...	como	τοιούτος ... οἷος...	σαν+Ac.
Adj/Adv		Equality degree	as ... as ...	so ... wie ...	sic ... ut ...	tan ... como ...	οὕτως ...ὥσπερ...	τόσο ... ὅσο...

Conclusions:

- 1) **‘Comparative clause’** isn't a linguistic label parallel to those applied to other subordinate clauses (temporal, causal, conditional, purpose, and so on). **‘Comparison’** doesn't refer to any semantic function (SF) used to classify other type of constituents: adverbs, noun phrases, prepositional phrases.
- 2) So-called **‘Comparative clauses’** can fulfill many different semantic functions and exhibit other values not always clearly classified.
- 3) From a diachronic point of view **comparative clauses** can develop into **coordinating conjunctions** and **additive focus particles**

11. References

- Blass, Friedrich & Albert Debrunner & Friedrich Rehkopf (1984₁₆): *Grammatik des neutestamentlichen Griechisch Studienausgabe*. Göttingen Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht (English translation by Robert Walter Funk A Greek Grammar of the New Testament and other early Christian literature. Chicago: University of Chicago Press 1961).
- Browning, Robert (1983₂): *Medieval and Modern Greek*. Cambridge University Press.
- Dik, S. C. & Kees Hengeveld (1997) The Theory of functional grammar. Berlin ; New York: Mouton de Gruyter, 1997.
- Dik, Simon C.-Kees Hengeveld-Elscline Vester-CO Vet (1990) "The hierarchical structure of the clause and the typology of satellites", in: Nuyts-Bolkestein-Vet (eds.), Layers and levels of representation in Language theory. Amsterdam: Benjamins. 25-70.
- Geoffrey Horrocks (2014): *Greek: A History of the Language and its Speakers*. Wiley Blackwell.
- Hengeveld, K. (1990): The hierarchical structure of utterances, in: Nuyts, J., Bolkestein, A.M., Vet, C. (Eds.), Pragmatics & Beyond New Series. John Benjamins Publishing Company, Amsterdam, p. 1. <https://doi.org/10.1075/>

pbns.13.03hen

- Holton, David & Geoffrey Horrocks & Marjolijne Janssen (2019): *The Cambridge grammar of Medieval and early modern Greek*. 4 volume set. Cambridge : Cambridge University Press.
- Holton, David & Peter Mackridge & Irene Philippaki-Warbuton & Vassilios Spyropoulos (2012₂) *Greek: a comprehensive grammar of the modern language*. London : Routledge.
- Quirk, R. et alii (1985). *A comprehensive grammar of the English language*. Harlow: Longman.
- König, E. (1991). *The meaning of focus particles: A comparative perspective*. London: Routledge.
- Revuelta Puigdollers, A.R. (2015) “(In)equality Comparison in Modern Greek”. Selected Papers of the 11th International Conference on Greek Linguistics, G. Kotzoglou et al. (eds), 2014, 1483-1494. Rhodes: University of the Aegean, 2015.
- Revuelta Puigdollers, A.R. (2020): 26. Las oraciones comparativas. M^aDolores Jiménez López (coord.): *Sintaxis del griego antiguo*. CSIC: Madrid, pp. 941-972, 2020.
- Rijksbaron A. (2006): *The syntax and semantics of the verb in classical greek: an introduction* (3rd ed. University of Chicago Press). University of Chicago Press.

Swan M. (2016⁴). *Practical English usage*. Oxford University Press.

Thomson, Audrey Jean & Agnes V. Martinet (1980³): *A Practical English Grammar*, Oxford, OUP.

van Emde Boas, Evert & Albert Rijksbaron & Luuk Huitink & Mathieu de Bakker (2019) *The Cambridge grammar of classical Greek*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.